

ADVISORY COMMISSION ON CAPITAL EXPENDITURES
REGULAR MEETING
SUFFIELD, CONNECTICUT
JANUARY 8, 2015

The Chair, Michael Stevens, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Present were Ryan Anderson, Kathie Harrington and Tony Roncaioli. Present by invitation was Gerald Turbet, Town Engineer.

Mr. Turbet explained that there is approximately \$450,000 in the Pavement Management (PM) account. If the proposed transfer of approximately \$50,000 to the White's Pond Dam Project is approved by the Board of Finance, then there will be \$400,000 in the account. Given this, he is asking for \$600,000 for the PM account, which would bring the balance to \$1,000,000. Mr. Turbet further explained that the bulk of the PM projects are bond projects, which are large projects in the \$2,000,000 range, and that the funds in the PM account will be spent on smaller projects (i.e. crack-sealing) and other costs associated with the bond projects (i.e. police and inspection costs). It was projected that an updated PM study will be commissioned in late 2015 or early 2016.

Discussion was had concerning the fact that one contractor has been winning all of the bids to perform the large PM projects. Costs have been kept down as this contractor historically is the lowest qualified bidder, but this contractor only has so many resources to devote to each project. As a result, it is rare that the projects proceed simultaneously. Consultants are doing smaller PM projects to ensure that as many PM projects as possible are completed.

For Drainage Projects, Mr. Turbet explained that there is approximately \$35,000 in that account and that he is asking for an additional \$50,000. There are several ongoing and/or planned projects that will likely exhaust the funds that are currently available and there are future projects that will need to be done. He thereafter explained that an additional \$20,000 is needed for the White's Pond Dam Project to reset large stones at the base of the dam that have been dislodged by ice in recent years. As for Small Bridge Projects, there is approximately \$230,000 in that account. Mr. Turbet explained that the large PM projects are prioritized over this work. As such, the current account balance should be sufficient for the upcoming budget year. Discussion was had concerning new State requirements for Stormwater Permits that will be effective January 1, 2016. It is likely that a consultant will need to be hired to ensure compliance with the new regulations, and Mr. Turbet is seeking \$40,000 for this purpose.

Finally, Mr. Turbet discussed the status of the Remington Street Bridge Replacement Project. It has been approved under the Federal Local Bridge Program and, thus, 80% of the project costs will be reimbursed by the State. The RFQ will be issued soon, and the preliminary design costs have previously been funded at \$366,000. The estimated project costs total \$3,057,800. Accordingly, \$765,000 is sought for the upcoming budget year – and the same amount will be sought in the three succeeding budget years as well. However, Mr. Turbet indicated that it was likely that none of the requested funds would be expended in the upcoming budget year.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathie Harrington